

# South Dakota National Guard

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **SD Guard aviation crew participates in medevac training**

By Sgt. 1st Class Theanne Tangen

RAPID CITY, S.D. – Members of the South Dakota Army National Guard's Company C, 1-189th Aviation Regiment, and Company D, 1-112th Aviation Regiment, participated in the fourth annual Great Plains Zone Interagency Helicopter Medevac training near Pactola Reservoir, June 25.

The purpose of the training is for various agencies to learn their roles when someone needs to be extracted by helicopter in the Black Hills National Forest.

"We have a really good working relationship with the National Guard," said Sheri Fox, Great Plains Interagency Dispatch center manager. "A couple of years ago we called the Guard for assistance to extract firefighters."

The training is designed for personnel to learn how to request air resources, proper patient packaging, radio frequency use, landing zone and hoist operations.

"It is important for our new personnel to learn how to hail in the helicopter and call for help," said Fox. "If we need to do a real-life extraction everyone will know what to do."

Other agencies participating in the medevac training were Black Hills Life Flight, South Dakota Wildland Fire Division, Black Hills National Forest and Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands.

"It is important for us to work with different agencies," said Sgt. 1st Class Greg Holland, of Company D, 1/112th. "It is good for them to see our capabilities and the resources we have to offer."

Kevin Allen, a member of the Bear Mountain hand crew, recognizes the value of the training exercise.

"I think this is great training – especially for our new guys to see that every agency has its own role – we do our part and the Guard does theirs," said Allen. "We all come together to get the goal accomplished."

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High resolution photos are available at [www.flickr.com/photos/southdakotationalguard](http://www.flickr.com/photos/southdakotationalguard)

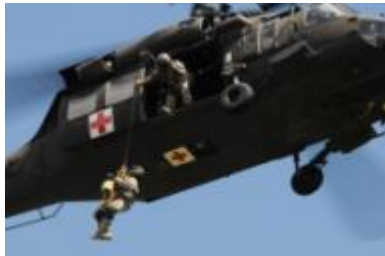


**140625-Z-CW157-215:** Sgt. 1st Class Greg Holland, Company D, 1-112th Aviation Regiment, South Dakota Army National Guard, secures a mannequin to hoist into a helicopter with the assistance of Jim Lawson, U.S. Forest Service regional helicopter operations specialist, during the fourth annual Great Plains Zone Interagency Helicopter Medevac training near Pactola Reservoir, S.D., June 25, 2014. The training allows various agencies to learn their roles when someone needs to be extracted by helicopter in the Black Hills National Forest. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. 1st Class Theanne Tangen/Released)





**140625-Z-CW157-275:** Sgt. Michael Severin, Company C, 1-189th Aviation Regiment, South Dakota Army National Guard, operates the hoist from inside a UH-60 Black Hawk to extract a mannequin from Sgt. 1st Class Greg Holland, Company D, 1-112th Aviation Regiment, during the fourth annual Great Plains Zone Interagency Helicopter Medevac training near Pactola Reservoir, S.D., June 25, 2014. The training allows various agencies to learn their roles when someone needs to be extracted by helicopter in the Black Hills National Forest. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. 1st Class Theanne Tangen/RELEASED)



**140625-Z-CW157-085:** Sgt. Michael Severin, Company C, 1-189th Aviation Regiment, South Dakota Army National Guard, guides the hoist from inside a UH-60 Black Hawk to bring up Sgt. 1st Class Greg Holland, Company D, 1-112th Aviation Regiment, during the fourth annual Great Plains Zone Interagency Helicopter Medevac training near Pactola Reservoir, S.D., June 25, 2014. The training allows various agencies to learn their roles when someone needs to be extracted by helicopter in the Black Hills National Forest. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. 1st Class Theanne Tangen/RELEASED)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** contact Maj. Anthony Deiss at (605) 737-6721 or cell (605) 431-8753, or e-mail [ng.sd.sdarng.list.pao@mail.mil](mailto:ng.sd.sdarng.list.pao@mail.mil)